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SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
God is still speaking, y'all

Learning and Gathering Opportunities for This Week

Monday, October 19 from 7:00 pm EDT / 6:00 pm CDT

Re-Opening of Churches – Conversation for all Church Leaders

As things keep changing regarding COVID-19 and reopening churches, we want to continue the conversation, developing safe and best practices. There is also the question about what churches might maintain into the future. We invite all Moderators, Church Leaders, and Clergy to be part of the conversation. Register online here.

Thursday, October 22 11 am - -4 pm Eastern/10 am – 3 pm Central
Friday, October 23 9 am -2 pm Eastern/ 8 am – 1 pm Central

Energizing the South for Energy Justice Summit

Communities in the South are experiencing a very real threat of utility shutoffs and evictions. People are being left unprotected. The UCC has a history of being pioneers against environmental injustice. This is an environmental injustice! In addition, there are no alternatives because people are robbed of choice and resources. This is energy injustice. We are looking for faithful people throughout the Southeast Conference who will join us in building this movement for energy justice for our most vulnerable among us and to join us for two days of education and inspiration. We will learn of the injustices around energy while inspiring you to advocate for energy justice. Help us in alleviating

economic oppression, inequity, and environmental justice by registering today for our Energizing the South for Energy Justice Summit. The Schedule and Speakers (over twenty speakers!) are listed on the Eventbrite registration page below.

There is no cost to attend. The first 20 authorized UCC ministers to register will receive a $30 gift card to pay for lunch for the days of training. This is partly funded through a grant from the UCC Brown Endowment Fund for Clergy Continuing Education. Questions can be directed to Rev. Michael Malcom: revmalcom@thepeoplesjusticecouncil.org.

Register Here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/energizing-the-south-tickets-122101213015

For Clergy

- **An Hour of Conversations and Prayer**
  Tuesdays, October 20 - 11:00 a.m. Eastern (10:00 a.m. Central)
  Zoom: https://zoom.us/j/479440102
- **Live Harp Meditations for Ministers - NEW TIME!**
  Thursday, October 22 - 12:00 p.m. Eastern (11:00 Central)
  20 minutes of meditation with Celtic harp. Silent prayer and reflection following if desired, facilitated by Rev. Jean Norton. (For questions or to sign up for individual Therapeutic Harp Sessions, contact Jean at HeartSongJean@gmail.com.)
  Zoom: https://zoom.us/j/96976838422

From the Wider UCC Church

Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 3:30pm - 4:30pm EDT

Confronting Authoritarism with Courageous and Compassionate Conversation

A conversation between Rev. Traci Blackmon and Brian McLaren about American Christianity, politics, faith and doubt. In a world where faith is often polluted with authoritarianism and nationalism, McLaren suggests that we need the courage to question the status quo and seek a more just and generous faith

that holds space for difference in a polarized world. REGISTER

Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 3:30pm - 4:30pm EDT

Prayers of the People

Members of the national staff are holding you and your congregations in prayer every day. Join this webinar to offer your own prayers and witness the prayers that are spoken aloud for the multiplicity of pains and gratitudes, grief and transformations. Hold space in your heart for the collective experience of shift we have all experienced, and offer your own prayers in the chat as we pray together. REGISTER

(For additional offerings check the UCC Website at www.ucc.org)

Looking Ahead

Monday, Oct. 26; 7 pm Eastern/6 pm Central

Election Fallout: How Should We Prepare?

As we move closer to the elections, anxiety is growing. There is concern about violence and intimidation. Misinformation adds to the uncertainty. No matter what the results of the elections, how do we respond as people of faith? How do we respond to individuals in our congregations who do not agree? How do we prepare for the array of emotions in the aftermath of the elections? Join us for conversation and sharing of resources that can help us prepare and navigate this challenging time ahead. Register online here.

Thursday, October 29 – 4 pm Eastern/3 pm Central

Maintaining Good Mental Health Through the Holidays – For Clergy

The holidays are approaching which add to anxiety and stress for both clergy and parishioners. How do we keep ourselves mentally healthy as we assist others dealing with anxiety, depression, and loss of normal holiday

activities? Rev. Sarah Lund, UCC Minister for Disabilities and Mental Health Justice will join us for a conversation about keeping focused and taking care of ourselves through these challenging times. Register Online Here.

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